BULLETIN
METHODIST RURAL FELLOWSHIP

To Further Methodism's Part in Christianizing Rural Life

VOL. XVIII DECEMBER, 1961 NO. 4

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OF RELIGION

"Internship Ministry" In East Wisconsin Conference

With St. James Methodist Church, East Troy, Wisconsin the geographic and counselling center of the program, an experiment named "The Internship Ministry" was initiated by the East Wisconsin Conference and Garrett Biblical Institute in June 1961. The cooperative project between the seminary and conference is meant to provide training experience for pastors serving circuits or multiple point charges while attending Garrett.

Includes Eight Churches

The project presently includes 4 student pastors serving eight churches, 2 Garrett professors, and an ordained minister as the on-the-field project counselor and the pastor at East Troy. The eight student churches are Eagle-Troy Center, Caldwell English Settlement, Lyons-Springfield-Spring Prairie, and Bethel. The project counselor works with the student ministers and the seminary, but does not deal directly with the internal affairs of the student churches, except upon invitation of the minister.

Counselor's Responsibilities

The responsibility of the project counselor on-the-field includes the following items.

1. Hold monthly meetings with student pastors to discuss any matter pertaining to their work. Meetings to date have dealt with the commissions, church school literature, conference programs, and youth work.
2. Be on call for emergencies in the student churches when the pastors are in Evanston, Ill.
3. Be available at all times for consultation.
4. Be a resource person for Annual Planning sessions.
5. Be a pastor to student pastor and family.

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Extended Ministries

The Central Texas Conference has come up with a new term—"Extended Ministry". At least, it is new to us. The practice is not new, but the name by which they identify it is new. An "Extended Ministry" is the term used when a full-time church extends its ministry to a near-by smaller church.

The conference town and country newsletter, "Cross Roads", edited by the Rev. Edward H. Otwell, Box 581, Cleburne, Texas, in a recent issue lists some twenty-six "extended ministries" in the conference. Most of these have been started since June of this year.

In some conferences this extended ministry program is called "assuming an outpost", "taking on a chapel", "accepting a mission point." By whatever name it is called, this is definitely a step in the right direction. Reports from those participating in Central Texas are most encouraging. Station churches and station pastors must be willing to launch out in an extended ministry.

FHA New Housing Program Stimulates Rural Building

In cooperation with Rural Areas Development, Farmers Home Administration has a new housing program. A total of $430 million in loans is authorized over a four-year period to build and improve housing of farmers and others in open country areas and small towns of less than 2,500 population. Insured loans for farm labor housing, small grants for necessary

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Allow me to send this year's Christmas Greeting through the medium of this column: May the confidence of Christ bless you richly this Christmas.

The proximity of farm animals in the nativity scene helps us to see the elemental rural situation into which Jesus was born. It was natural that during the Middle Ages the ox and the ass were brought into the Christmas dramas. Out of this practice a Noel, first sung in France, later copied in Italy, draws a moral which applies to all times and every country. It runs:—

When in the depths of winter cold
Jesus Christ was born,
The ox and ass they blew and puffed
To warm Him as He lay.
How many an ox and ass I know
In this fair land of Gaul,
How many an ox and ass I know
Who would never have acted so!

And it is said of those poor beasts
When first they Him beheld
That meekly down they bowed their heads
Humbly falling on their knees;
How many an ox and ass I know,
So swelled with pride they are,
How many an ox and ass I know
Who would never have acted so!

But the best part of all the tale
Is that the ox and ass
Both passed through all the livelong night
With ne'er a sup or drink;
How many an ox and ass I know,
All fine in cloth and silk,
How many an ox and ass I know
Who would never have acted so!

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The Methodist Rural Fellowship

A fellowship of Methodist Ministers and laymen who are concerned with Methodism's responsibility toward creating and sustaining a Christian Culture for rural America.

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Scarritt Develops Ten-Year Plan

A ten-year master plan for Scarritt College here has been approved by its board of trustees. The plan includes the erection of five new buildings.

The Rev. Dr. D. D. Holt, Scarritt president, said the school's student body is expected to double in size in the next decade. He said present facilities and the five new buildings would enable Scarritt to accommodate 300 resident students. Present resident enrollment is about 150, with the to-

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GROUP MINISTRY BEGINS OPERATION

Left to right: Rev. R. T. Wallace, Dr. J. D. F. Williams, Rev. W. E. Williams, Rev. W. W. Pittman, Mrs. Faye Tandy, Rev. J. W. Gill, and Rev. Otis Brown.

The North Georgetown Texas District Group Ministry has begun its operation with the churches at Moody, Troy, Eddy, Bruceville, Moody-Leon, Oenaville, Cedar Creek and Stockton Chapel participating.

Mrs. Faye Tandy has been appointed by the W.S.C.S. as a full-time worker in the area.

The Rev. Edward H. Otwell, Executive Secretary of the Conference Town and Country Commission, has met with the groups on various occasions in the setting up of the Group Ministry. He spoke at Troy, Eddy and Moody on Sept. 10. The other churches also came in to hear an interpretation of this group effort. Plans are being laid for a cooperative effort in evangelism, education, stewardship and leadership training.

A joint Fifth Sunday night service has been planned for October 29, when Dr. Marvin T. Judy, Professor of Perkins School of Theology, will be the speaker.

The group ministry has been in the thinking of Dr. J. D. F. Williams for several years and is now coming into being through his leadership. The Group Ministry will serve about 900 Methodist members and is designed to make the ministry of Jesus Christ more effective to the entire area.

Membership Classes In Mexico

Each of the 37 Mexican churches that were involved in an evangelistic mission in August has a new membership training class as a result of the mission in which 22 U. S. Methodist ministers participated.

This was reported by the Rev. Howard Ellis, Nashville director of U. S. Methodist participation in the mission and staff member of the Methodist General Board of Evangelism here.

The evangelistic mission August 1-20 reached a total of 22,796 persons in 243 services in all parts of Mexico, said Mr. Ellis. Other results were 115 probationary members, 40 baptisms, and 935 reconsecrations.

Bishop Eleazar Guerra, head of the autonomous Methodist Church of Mexico, said, "This was not only an evangelistic mission. This was a mission of good will between the people of North America and Latin America."

The mission was a part of a year-long evangelistic emphasis by Mexican Methodism.

If Mexican churches can have membership classes, it would seem that more American town and country churches could do the same.

Step-Up Urged To Save Town and Country Church

A "new and urgent call" for international cooperation to revive dying town and country churches was issued in Bangor, Maine by the moderator of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

In a letter read to the first Northeast Regional Convocation of the Church in Town and Country, moderator Paul McKelvey, a Los Angeles, Calif. business man, said that no denomination could cope with the town and country crisis by itself.

He invited representatives at the meeting to join the Presbyterian Church in exploring cooperatives.

The integrity of men is to be measured by their conduct, not by their professions.

Junius

Christmas 1961

Christmas is not a date on the calendar, but an event of the heart. Thus it is not localized in a day, the twenty-fifth of December, but it is a spirit that permeates all of life. It is the Christlike mind and heart for three hundred sixty-five days of the year. Christmas comes whenever God is made known in the heart through the Spirit of Christ Jesus, our Lord! The symbols of Christmas are the common things of life made sacred through the presence of the Divine. A Star, a Baby's low cry, a Mother's sweet prayer, an Angel's song, a Father's concern, shepherds kneeling and Wise Men coming from afar. But all meeting in a stable in old Bethlehem. You cannot keep Christmas without sensing the presence of God in the common, every-day things of life. But more, Christmas is the promise of life's fulfillment in every baby, Jesus said, "Of such is my kingdom." The world has no hope except in babies who grow up to make the world a more beautiful place in which to live. God's revelation of truth comes through dedicated personalities, the listening mind, the understanding heart, the dedicated will. Here is the hope of the Kingdom of God.

—Dr. Frank A. Court

Secretary Freeman Calls For Extensive RAD Effort

"I want to talk to you about rural areas development, because it is one of the areas where the new frontier challenges us in rural America. It challenges us to bring to rural America opportunities for a standard of living, for recreation, for opportunity

to enjoy the things of life commensurate with those of our urban or city areas. By and large that is not the case today. Rural areas development stands as one of the great challenges that we as a nation face."

Dedicates Watershed

With these words, spoken without a written text, Secretary Freeman recently helped to dedicate the Mountain Run Watershed at Culpeper, Va. The Secretary said that the nation's Small Watershed Program, to which the Department of Agriculture makes a major financial and technical contribution, ties in closely to rural areas development. Eight thousand of the 13,000 small watersheds in the nation should be developed under the watershed program, he said, but at present only 350 are so developed.

Face Dual Problem

The people of Mountain Run Watershed, including those in Culpeper, were faced with the dual problem of floods and water shortage. Flood damages were averaging $12,000 a year. Yet, when the droughts came, Culpeper had to draw on emergency supplies stored in an abandoned quarry.

Pulling Together

Farmers and townspeople worked together to solve both problems. Conservation farming methods were adopted on watershed lands. Six miles of stream channel were cleared and improved. Three flood-prevention dams were built. Municipal water storage space was provided behind one of the dams.

3 New Industries

As a result of now-plentiful water and flood protection, three new industries with payrolls totaling 400 have established branches at Culpeper. Others are asking about possible sites. The town has a new hospital, previously held up for lack of water. New home developments, made possible by extension of water mains, are springing up.

A Word From Phil Aylesworth

Four years ago this month a system was established to help provide closer working relationships between National Town and Country Church Leaders and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Secretary's Memorandum No. 1419, "Focal Points for Work with Rural Church Leaders," was issued August 5, 1957. This action formalized a long-standing tradition of agencies and organizations working with the rural church as a community institution serving people in the community.

The arrangement helps provide greater opportunities for understanding, for exchange of ideas, and for mutual supporting efforts by persons in the Department and in Town and Country Church organizations.

Agricultural Notes

During the past four years, we have used Agricultural Notes to bring about greater understanding and interest in programs administered by the Department and to show how these resources can help church leaders and other "allies" in improving the welfare of people in the community. But most of all, Agricultural Notes has symbolized our goal—to keep open a two-way channel of communications. It thus demonstrates our willingness to continue effective working relationships between rural church leaders and the Department of Agriculture.

700 Copies Run

We run 700 copies of each issue of Agricultural Notes. About half of these go to National Town and Country Church Leaders—denominational executives, seminary heads, and others who are responsible for national program leadership. The balance goes to individuals of other organizations who work with the rural church as a community institution—agricultural agencies, cooperatives, land-grant colleges, farm and other civic and educational organizations.

We have had many requests to send Agricultural Notes to rural clergymen, county extension agents, and other leaders in the community. However, we limit the mailing to National Church Leaders. In doing so, we send selected materials that leaders can use as reference in relaying pertinent information on to the community level.

NOTE

When sending renewals, please always send your check to Rev. C. Edwin Murphy, Box 208, Lexington, Nebraska. To send it to the editor only delays it.

"Internship Ministry" In East Wisconsin Conference

(Continued from Page 1)

The counselor's relationship to the seminary is two-fold. Quarterly reports on the monthly meetings and other activities are sent to the Garrett Field Work office and content for a course in Rural Church Administration is to be worked out with the professor of rural sociology. It is hoped that both in the course and on the field principles of adapting General Church Programs to circuits can be worked out.

Professor Alvin J. Lindgren, Field Work Supervisor, and Dr. Rockwell C. Smith, professor of rural sociology, are the seminary participants in the program. Rev. Richard Noble is the field counselor and pastor at East Troy.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 1)

Dr. Huff

Those of us who have talked with Dr. Harold S. Huff, new Director of the Department of Town and Country, have been very favorably impressed by our new leader. For a person so recently come to the work he has a grasp of policy and detail that is remarkable. He has vision and is articulate. His fresh approaches are creative. He should, and I know will, have our hearty support in his difficult yet most challenging assignment. I commend him to your affectionate esteem.

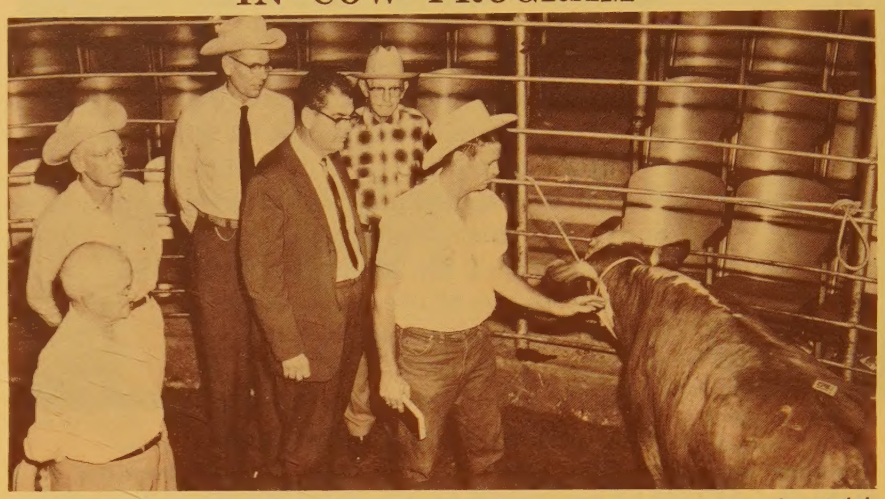
The next National Methodist Town and Country Conference is just over a year and a half away. Preparation is beginning. What kind of a Conference do you want? What do you want the Conference to do for the Church? What concerns should be handled by the Conference? I have been invited to participate in the planning for the Conference and am anxious to have your views to share with the Interboard Committee. Please send them in.

Garland R. Stafford
Box 749
Statesville, N. C.

Monuments! what are they? the very pyramids have forgotten their builders, or to whom they were dedicated. Deeds, not stones, are the true monuments of the great.

Motley

LEVITA METHODISTS PARTICIPATE IN COW PROGRAM



COWS FOR CHURCH PROGRAM—Levita Methodists are shown inspecting the eighth cow purchased for their unusual Lord's Acre program. Left to right, they are H. E. Rivers, O. Z. Stobaugh, R. E. Barnett, District Superintendent C. H. Cole, Flint Lee, and the Rev. Wesley Jones.

Many rural churches have a Lord's Acre program which finds profits from field crops going into the church treasury, but the Levita Methodist Church, Gatesville District, Central Texas Conference, has come up with a novel project tailored to the stock-farming area in which it is located.

As yet unnamed, it calls for members to take cows and handle them as their own, with proceeds from the increase going to the church.

Financed by Member

The church's laymen thought up the idea, and one of the members, who prefers to remain anonymous, agreed to furnish financial backing. He pays for the cows and as calves are sold, half the profits go to pay the initial cost of the mother cow and the other half to the church treasurer. Once the cow is paid for, all money realized from the sale of calves will go the church.

Eighth Cow Purchased

The eighth cow to be purchased under this program was bought at the Gatesville Commission Co. in August. It went to the church's pastor, the Rev. Wesley Jones, a strong believer in the project.

Spiritual Value

"I think the program has a definite spiritual value for those who participate in addition to the material benefits for the church," Mr. Jones said. "Those who take the cows know they are caring for something that belongs to God."

The program has also been strongly commended by Dr. C. H. Cole, Gatesville District Superintendent.

Sell First Calf

The Levitans launched the program last spring. The first calf was recently sold for $106, with half the money going to the church, half to pay on the cow's cost.

Methodist laymen who are caring for cows under this program are Flint Lee, David Lee, Jeff Smart, Howard Smart, L. C. Roberts, O. Z. Stobaugh and R. E. Barnett.

"These men care for and feed these cows just as if they were their own," Pastor Jones explained.

Flint Lee, veteran rancher, is the official "cow buyer" for the church. He selects grade cows which he feels can produce good calves.

Letter From I. W. Moomaw

Dear Mr. Hankins:

You will note that the Christian Rural Fellowship for this issue contains two important items, both more complete than those we have usually mailed out.

The Bulletin on the Rural Clergy, by the Rev. L. Maxwell Brown, represents much careful study, and we believe this complete statement will be greatly appreciated by ministers, theological students and others.

Because of the growing interest in overseas work, we thought that members of the Christian Rural Fellowship would appreciate copies of the booklet, The Church and Rural Reconstruction. Even though this is a 35¢ item, we are glad to supply it to all CRF members, because of its timely interest.

Very sincerely yours,
I. W. Moomaw,
Secretary

Group Ministry Plans Activities

The North Corsicana Texas District Group Ministry held its council meeting on September 24, and a ministerial staff meeting was held on September 25. Complete plans for the development of activities this quarter were made.

The Rev. Edward H. Otwell, executive secretary of the Town and Country Commission met with the group and presented "Attainment Standards for the Town and Country Church." The standards have been adopted by the Commission as a means of improving all churches.

The North Corsicana District Group Ministry was started last year and has been very successful in the development of a group Methodist Men's Club, a summer evangelistic crusade and a Vacation Church School.

Mrs. Nan Wright, appointed by the Woman's Division of Christian Service started work in the group on September 1. She moved into Blooming Grove from Groesbeck, where she had worked in the South Limestone Methodist Fellowship. She was honored at the last session of the Annual Conference by the Town and Country Commission for her outstanding work in the Town and Country Church.

New Manual For Adults in Small Churches

A new manual just off the press, **Adult Work in the Small Church** (4502-BC), provides practical guidance and suggestions especially applicable in small churches having one or two adult classes. Officers, teachers, and others responsible for adult education will find many helps in planning and developing an effective program. Prepared by the Department of Christian Education of Adults, General Board of Education, the manual was written by Roy H. Ryan, director of adult work in the North Mississippi Conference. **Adult Work in the Small Church** is available from Cokesbury, 30 cents per copy.

USDA Food Donations Up

Food donations by the USDA at home and abroad totaled 3.7 billion pounds for the year ending June 30, 1961. This was 31 percent more than a year earlier and a record high. The quantity of food going to needy families in the U. S. was stepped up 63 percent, mainly due to efforts to make more of the Nation's agricultural abundance available to families in need of food. A four-page fact sheet* gives the details.

NEW MEDICAL INSURANCE PLAN FOR CLERGY AND LAY LEADERS

A new medical insurance plan, to be available to both clerical and lay employees of the Methodist Church, has been announced by The General Board of Pensions. The program was authorized by the last General Conference, and is underwritten by Travelers Insurance.

Announcement of the plan was made at a regional meeting of the Board of Pensions in Dallas October 25-26.

The expansion of the program, according to Dr. Lyle A. Weed, a secretary of the board, was the result of the growing concern of the church that facilities so widely available to workers in business and industry be made available to ministers and lay workers in the church.

Additional factors leading to the adoption of a medical insurance program were described as the rising cost of medical services which increased three and one half times as much last year as other services and commodities, increasing desire on the part of pastors to pay for medical services, dissolution of the well-known practice of physicians providing free service for ministers and their families. It was pointed out that with greater specialization, many physicians who would prefer to give pastors free service are unable to do so because of the use of a corps of technicians and specialists.

Services of Board

In addition to the medical program, the General Board of Pensions has for many years served as clearing house and distributor for funds for Methodist conferences. Conferences which elect to do so deposit pension funds with the board, and the board distributes retirement checks. Dr. Ernest Tripp, a staff secretary of the Board of Pensions, discussed these and other services of the board in the opening address of the conference.

Lay Pension Plan

A pension plan which has been made available to lay employees of local Methodist churches was also explained at the regional meeting. The plan is designed to cover employees that could not otherwise have the benefits of a pension program. Though made available through the General Board of Pensions, the plan is designed to meet individual requirements.

Dr. Mueller's Guidance Cited

Dr. Mueller

The Rev. Dr. E. W. Mueller, secretary of Church in Town and Country for the National Lutheran Council, received the 1961 Distinguished Service Award of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts at the organization's fifteenth annual convention in Memphis, Tennessee.

The award is given annually to outstanding Americans who have made significant contributions to the advancement of soil and water conservation.

The citation presented by NASCD President Bill Richards reads as follows:

"For continuing and invaluable guidance on behalf of the annual observance of Soil Stewardship Week in America;

"For untiring and selfless efforts to elevate the practice of agriculture and the responsibilities of the husbandman to his community and to God's purpose;

"For spiritual leadership which has inspired the conservation movement of America over many years; and

"For his far-reaching influence in asserting the social and moral values that are an inseparable part of all responsible conservation effort—"

"We, the Officers and Directors of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts, are privileged and honored to present to the Reverend E. W. Mueller the 1961 Distinguished Service Award of this Association."

Member of Advisory Committee

A member of the Soil Stewardship Advisory Committee to NASCD for many years, Dr. Mueller also serves as secretary-treasurer of the American Country Life Association; on the board of governors for the establishment of an Agricultural Hall of Fame; and as a member of the Committee on Rural Economic and Social Trends for the National Council of Churches.

A native of Waverly, Iowa, Dr. Mueller now lives in Midlothian, Illinois, a Chicago suburb. He holds degrees from the University of Iowa; Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa; and Augustana Theological Seminary, Rock Island, Illinois. Prior to his service with the National Lutheran Council in Chicago, Dr. Mueller served for thirteen years as a pastor in rural Iowa.

—Town and Country Church

Self-conquest is the greatest of victories.

Plato

Mark Rich To Head 'Continuing Education'

Mark Rich

Named director of the new continuing-education - for - pastors program of the American Baptist Board of Education and Publication is Dr. Mark Rich, Columbia, Missouri. His appointment was announced at a board of managers meeting May 17.

Since 1952, Dr. Rich has been professor of rural church at the Missouri School of Religion. Prior to that he served for fourteen years as secretary of town and country work for the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, founding the Rural Church Center at Green Lake, Wisconsin and the Commission on Rural Advance.

He is a graduate of Linfield College, Oregon, Colgate Rochester Divinity Scrool, New York, and earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at Cornell University, New York. Author of four books, Dr. Rich led a rural churchman's tour of Europe in 1953.

To Begin in 1962

The continuing education program for all New England A.B.C. pastors will begin in 1962, according to Dr. Lynn Leavenworth, A.B.C. director of theological education.

The program, initiated by the New England Council on the Ministry, will provide refresher courses in Bible and theology, individual counseling and group discussion on the personal role of a pastor, and suggestions for future study. Every Baptist pastor in New England will be invited to a two-weeks residence session of this sort once every five years.

Aim Of Program

Aim of the program is not so much to increase skills for running the church as to develop new interests, habits of reflection, study, research, and creative leadership to help the men and women become better ministers of Jesus Christ, Dr. Leavenworth explains. If remedial or advance training is indicated for a particular pastor, it will be recommended and he will be encouraged to make definite plans to get it before his next session at the education institute.

The New England program will be financed for its first five years by a grant from CHEC (the Christian Higher Education Challenge), plus funds from the states and fees from the pastors.

—Town and Country Church

I had rather be hissed for a good verse than applauded for a bad one.
Victor Hugo

Available Publications

Phil Aylesworth in his **Agricultural Notes** lists the following materials available. Single copies of all USDA material are available from Office of Information, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

Copies of three addresses are available: **New Frontiers and Wider Horizons** by Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman before the annual meeting of the American Institute of Cooperation, August, 1961. **Improving the Public Image of Agriculture** by Assistant Secretary Frank J. Welch before the annual meeting of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, September, 1961. **Vesper Service Address**, by Rev. William Davidson, National Council Protestant Episcopal Church, before meeting of County Agricultural Agents listed above.

There are also three leaflets on the Changing Community. **Population Trends and the Urban Sprawl**, new census figures reveal more detail of the population changes in the rural community. **The Stake of Rural People in Metropolitan Government.** Miscellaneous Publication No. 869 describes problems resulting from the spread of city populations into farm areas. Proposals for improving local government are examined. **Changes in the Rural Church Situation.** This leaflet was prepared for the Methodist Study and Promotion Committee, Ohio area.

Report on Resort Ministry Workshop

A report on "The Arkansas-Missouri Workshop' Ministering to Resort Communities'" is available. Dan Schores, Area Director of Town and Country Work, Missouri Area, Columbus, Missouri, has put together a very impressive report of the Workshop, held last calendar year.

The report contains such entries as a factual report on resort areas in Arkansas and Missouri giving the types of resorts, the number of tourists and the size of the resort-tourist business.

Another section is entitled, "The Resort Pastor Looks at His Ministry". Some of the statements by various pastors included in this section are: "Opportunity For A Methodist Witness", "Temptations of The Tourist", "Challenge of a State Park", "New Devotional Forms" and "Concern For All People."

This 26-page report is the result of a very comprehensive study of the resort ministry.

NEXT NATIONAL T & C CONFERENCE
MINNEAPOLIS, JULY 9-12, 1963

More Progress on Continuing Memorial For Dr. Pat McConnell

Reports coming to the desk of the editor point to more and more progress on the continuing memorial for Dr. Pat McConnell. Dr. Gerald O. McCulloh, Box 871, Nashville 2, Tennessee, is the treasurer of the fund. Those desiring to have a part in this continuing memorial may send their checks to Dr. McCulloh.

Dr. John B. Howes is chairman of the memorial in the seminaries. Representatives in the seminaries follow:

Boston	Herbert E. Stotts
Drew	David M. Graybeal
Duke	Wilson Nesbitt
Emory	Earl D. C. Brewer
Gammon	Ralph Williamson
Iliff	Oliver R. Writley
Garrett	Rockwell C. Smith
Methodist-Ohio	Harold B. Williams
St. Paul	Richard Nesmith
Southern Cal.	John L. Mixon
S.M.U.	Marvin Judy
Wesley	John B. Howes

The Rev. H. R. Chalfant, retired minister, St. Petersburg, Florida, has been instrumental in getting the memorial plans under way.

Reitz Honored As Teacher

Russell Reitz

Recently Mr. T. Russell Reitz, Chairman, Division of Church World Service-CROP, was honored by the First Methodist Church of Manhattan, Kansas for service to the church school as teacher for twenty-six years.

Mr. Reitz has taught in all departments of the church school and has been superintendent of the school. He is currently teaching a "Churchmanship Class" for new members. The present class is so popular, regular members have asked to be enrolled so they will be better informed regarding their church.

In addition to teaching duties in the church school, Mr. Reitz is a member of the Stewardship and Finance Committee, the Methodist Men, the Chancel Choir, treasurer of the South Central Jurisdiction of The Methodist Church, and a member of the coordinating council of the General Conference of the Methodist Church.

Dr. Randle Dew, a member of the staff of the General Board of Education of The Methodist Church, observed in reference to Mr. Reitz' service in the Manhattan Methodist parish that a person need not be in the ministry to go about the Lord's work.

Brief History of Grantsville, W. Va. Group Ministry

Under the direction of the district superintendent (Rev. Reece Burns), a survey was made in 1958 in Central District of the West Virginia Annual Conference to determine an area suitable for a Group Ministry Plan. Such things as a natural geographic area, shopping and services center and political division were considered in this study.

PLANNING MEETING

A meeting of the Methodist ministers of the area was called in July of 1958. At this meeting it was agreed that the plan would be put into effect. Lay representatives were subsequently elected by each of the quarterly conferences. At the next meeting officers were elected, with Rev. William Richards of the County seat church as the chairman, Mrs. Louise Estep, from one of the outlying charges was elected as secretary and treasurer. At this meeting plans were made for a rally to be held with the ministers, elected lay representatives and four others (two youth and two adults from each charge). At this rally the Group Ministry Plan was explained to those present and they in turn were encouraged to list the needs of their particular charge that they thought the Group Ministry might help them solve.

SOME ACTIVITIES

These are some of the activities that the Group Ministry has engaged in: November 1958, a survey was made by teams from the Group Ministry of a community where the church had been closed. On the basis of this survey the Ministerial members of the Group Ministry conducted a five night preaching revival. The church was reopened and remains open today and has been added to one of the circuits.

MISSIONARY RALLY

In the spring of 1959 the Group Ministry held a missionary rally and showed the slides brought back from Africa by Bishop Llyod C. Wicke, of his missionary visitation to Africa. As a result of the rally a mission project was accepted and paid. A review of the year's work was made at a covered dish dinner for representatives and their families at the Pleasant Hill parsonage.

OPPOSES LIQUOR

In December of 1959, the Group Ministry in conjunctioin with other church denominations held a rally to cope with the threat of a liquor store being opened in the county seat town of Grantsville. Dr. Stanley Niles, Executive Secretary of the W. Va. Temperance League, was the director of the rally and the featured speaker. The liquor store was not established and there has been no threat of one since.

HOLD WORKER'S SCHOOL

Regular monthly meetings of the representatives were held during the second year. A Christian Worker's School was planned and held for three days in February of 1960.

During this year we invited in Dr. Aaron H. Rapking, who served as an advisor to help organize the Group Ministry, to help us evaluate what we were doing and to make suggestions for plans for another year.

NEW DIRECTOR ELECTED

At the organizational covered dish dinner at the beginning of the present Conference year, Rev. Noble L. Crew, pastor of the Knotts Memorial Methodist Church in the county seat town, was elected as director. The Group Ministry plans to conduct a larger Christian Worker's School, continue the preaching missions when invited to do so. Already there has been a survey made through the schools of the county of the persons who are 12 years of age through high school. There are 1,156 persons in this age group and 46% of them are Methodist or give Methodism as their choice of denominations. This survey was made in order that we might participate in a district-wide Youth Revival in September of 1961.

HEIFER PROJECT, INC.

What is Heifer Project, Inc.? How does it operate? Where do the funds go? Below you will find many of these answers. More information can be obtained from Dr. Thurl Metzger, Executive Director, Box 125, North Manchester, Indiana, or from Mr. LeRoy M. Kutz, Jr., Box 278, Upper Darby, Pa.

The Purpose . . .

To help meet the nutritional needs of hungry people by supplying the type of assistance which meets the immediate problem of hunger and malnutrition . . . but yet has the long range potential for supplying food requirements for the months and years to come.

The Beginning . . .

In 1938, during the Spanish Civil War, Dan West, a Brethren relief worker, was in Spain. For days he portioned out a drink made from dried milk and water to orphans and mothers with babies. He soon realized the real solution to the food problem was to bring in cows that would give food for these babies, fertilizer for the crops, and a method of building faith in the future.

He returned to America and his idea became a reality. In 1944, the first load of heifers was shipped to Puerto Rico.

The Method . . .

Governmental, private, or church related agencies apply to Heifer Project for a shipment. If need can be proven, feed is sufficient, supervision is adequate, and shipping available, approval for the shipment is given by the Executive Committee.

Publicity is given to the project. Church groups, service organizations and interested individuals either contribute funds or owners give animals from their own herds. Heifer Project supplies project outlines, promotional materials, guidance and technical information.

The Distribution . . .

Recipients are selected on the basis of need and the ability to give proper care. This process is done by local governmental and church officials working in cooperation with Heifer Project representatives.

The person who receives livestock or poultry promises to give the first-born offspring to someone else in need. Thus, he too, participates in the building of his country.

The Record . . .

Since 1944, Heifer Project, Inc. has shipped 25,000 animals and 785,000 baby chicks and hatching eggs to 60 countries.

The Direction . . .

Heifer Project representatives direct programs in Europe, Mexico, Colombia, Ecuador, and the United States.

Future programs are projected for development of a Ten Area Plan of intensive overseas staffing and shipments.

Unique Qualities . . .

Visibility . . . living gifts.
Increase . . . animals reproduce.
Passing on the Gift . . . self respect.
Education . . . self development.

Shipping Costs . . .

Inland transportation is usually paid by the donors, for most shipments. Overseas transportation is sometimes paid by the Government of the receiving country, occasionally by a United States governmental agency such as the International Cooperation Administration or donors, foundations, and private agencies.

Heifer Project has a cooperative relationship with CHURCH WORLD SERVICE and a consultative relationship with AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS, INC.

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA COMMISSION PLANS PROGRAM

Seldom do we find a more comprehensive program planned according to the **Discipline** than the following one of the Western N. C. Commission on Town and Country. Although rather long, any Commission looking for guidance for a program in keeping with the 1960 **Discipline**, will find some ideas below.

The DISCIPLINE specifies (paragraph 1231) the work of the Commission as follows:

1. Conduct surveys and research studies in town and country areas.
2. Develop cooperative procedures between the church and social and governmental agencies and with town and country departments of state councils of churches and with churches of other denominations in local communities.
3. Work to improve the effectiveness of town and country churches and pastors.
4. Recommend a program to coordinate the work of the participating boards and agencies in this program area.
5. Outline a program of town and country work to be presented to the participating agencies and the conference.

To follow the directives of the DISCIPLINE the Commission is engaged in the following activities this conference year:

1. a. Studies of the churches in Clay and Randolph Counties are immediately ahead. These studies will reveal the effectiveness of the churches in doing their work, trends in membership and finance, where program and organization need improvement, prospects for the future, etc.

   b. Charge boundary studies will be made in two areas in the Marion District and one in Gastonia District.

   c. Methodist service is being mapped in the conference with immediate reference to the program of Evangelism for the year one goal of which is putting all the territory of the conference under Methodist pastoral responsibility.

2. a. The executive secretary of the Commission, as chairman of Town and Country Commission of the North Carolina Council of Churches, is a member of the Executive Board of the Council and keeps in touch with the work of the Committees on Migrant Work, Rural Church and C R O P (Christian Rural Overseas Program). He attended the meeting of the Executive Board on September 22 and of the Migrant Committee on September 26.

   b. A working relationship is maintained with agricultural, industrial, educational, health and other agencies.

3. a. Local visits are being made with less experienced pastors, as requested by the District Superintendents.

   b. Monthly consultations are being held with student pastors attending Pfeiffer College.

   c. Direction is given in training local church leadership in the use of the Commissions and the Official Board in implementing and administering the program of the local church. A worship for Local Church Leaders was held for the Denton area October 15. Workshops are in the planning stage for the Greater Mount Airy Parish and for Davie County.

   d. Assistance is given the conference Methodist Rural Fellowship in planning and holding the annual Retreat and the luncheon at annual conference. The Retreat will be held at Mocksville, November 27, 28. The findings of the Appalachian Studies and their import for the conference will be discussed by Dr. W. D. Weatherford, Dr. J. W. Sells, a panel of laymen led by Mr. Robert M. Smith and panel of pastors led by Rev. M. Q. Tuttle. The opening hour is 3:15 p.m. on November 27.

   e. An orientation tour of seven Methodist institutions in the conference by new ministers is in the planning stage.

   f. The Student Summer Service Program, in which college girls assist local churches in vacation church schools and youth activities during the vacation period, will be continued.

   g. The observance of Harvest Festival and Rural Life Sunday are being promoted.

   h. Assistance is given the eight Group Ministries now functioning in the conference: Avery County, Cherokee County, Clay County, Creston-Green Valley, Denton Area, Greater Mount Airy Parish, Macon County and Weaverville. A display of the work of these group ministries is planned as a part of the town and country exhibit at annual conference.

   i. Cooperation is given the Woman's Society of Christian Service in placing and interpreting the work of women Rural Church and Community Workers. Six are now at work in the conference: At Cherokee, Hayesville, Denton, Mount Airy, Franklin and Burnsville.

   j. Leadership is being given in a number of places in the study of "New Churches for New Times".

   k. A library and resource center on town and country concerns is maintained at the conference office.

   l. Information concerning town and country affairs is distributed through a news bulletin, Methodist Information, the North Carolina CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE, etc.

4. Nothing unusual in this area is attempted at this time.
5. The report to the annual conference will, as usual, carry an outline of a program of work.

Everett H. Lowman,
Chairman
Garland R. Stafford,
Executive Secretary

Conference Planning Conference
Charlotte, North Carolina
October 26-27, 1961

Gene Carter Joins TRAFCO

The Rev. Dr. Gene W. Carter, San Francisco, has joined the staff of the Methodist Television, Radio and Film Commission, which has its headquarters here. He was superintendent of the Bay View District of The Methodist Church before coming to the new position September 1.

Dr. Carter is associate director of the Department of Radio and Television of the Television, Radio and Film Commission (TRAFCO). He replaces Robert Glazier, who resigned August 31 to become general manager of the new educational television station here.

The announcement was made by the Rev. Dr. Howard E. Tower, Nashville, associate secretary of TRAFCO.

This year, Dr. Carter was chairman of the Radio-Television Department of the Northern California-Nevada Council of Churches.

Dr. Carter became superintendent of the Bay View District in 1960. Before that, he was superintendent of the Metropolitan (San Francisco) Methodist District, 1956-60. From 1953 to 1956, he was associate professor of church and community at Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, Calif. He has served as pastor of churches in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa, and at one time was an instructor in sociology at Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa.

He has a bachelor of arts degree from Simpson College; bachelor of divinity, Garrett Biblical Institute; and master of arts, Northwestern University. He has done graduate work at the Universities of Wisconsin and California. He has an honorary doctor of divinity degree from the University of the Pacific, Stockton, Calif.

MEET THE COMMISSIONS (continued)

(Herewith we present the last Commission on Town and Country Work received thus far in our effort to let out readers meet the officers and see something of their programs. We earnestly solicit other Commission chairmen and secretaries to send us a photograph and something of the conference program in town and country work.—Editor).

Rev. Mr. Gill

The Rev. Dan M. Gill, Boca Raton, Florida, is the chairman of the Florida Conference Commission on Town and Country Work. Dan is a former president of the M.R.F. in the Florida Conference and has served as pastor of Tice, Estero, Ruskin, Groveland and Boca Raton. Dan was graduated from Georgia Tech in 1947 and from Candler School of Theology in 1951. He is married and they have two sons, David, 9 and Steven, 7.

The Rev. Reid B. Gass, pastor of Spencer Memorial Church, Seffner, Florida, is the secretary of the commission. Spencer Memorial was named "District Church of the Year" this year.

Reid was pastor of Keystone Church in Odessa, Florida from 1951-1958. In 1957 Keystone was named "District Church of the Year"; it was Florida's entrant in the Southeastern Jurisdiction Quadrennial Church and Community Program, and Gass was named Rural Minister of the Year for the state of Florida by the **Progressive Farmer** and Emory University.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The Commission has a church recognition program in two areas: for churches with a membership of 249 and less and for those churches having from 250 to 500 members. The commission cooperates with the Methodist Rural Fellowship in giving a banquet at annual conference at which time recognition is given to the churches. The commission also cooperates with other boards and agencies in carrying out their programs in the town and country churches.

"The Furrowed Brow"

Some of us in the back country feel the need to share our thoughts and feelings, our problems and any successful solutions to them we may have found. For too long now, we have ignored an organization of pastors and laymen designed for just this purpose.

Let's revive the Methodist Rural Fellowship! Lowell Allen, pastor of the Methodist Church in Polo, Illinois and chairman of our Town and Country Commission, will be most happy to enroll anyone interested for the membership fee of two dollars. This will set the stage for real growth in fellowship, sharing, moral support and education.

WHAT HAPPENS

Here is what happens. As a member of a national organization of Methodists concerned for the American countryside and its Christianization, you begin receiving the "Methodist Rural Fellowship Bulletin" regularly. This will keep you up to date on what the experts and the ordinary folks are doing in the many country areas being served by Methodist churches. You become informed of special activities relevant to the needs of the town and country church and its people.

C. R. F. BULLETIN, TOO!

In recognition that other denominations and churches serve the same Lord and often the same areas, the interdenominational "Christian Rural Fellowship Bulletin" comes your way.

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS

One additional publication reminds us that the world is still our parish. "Agricultural Missions" focuses our thoughts on the needs of the multitude of God's children around the world and the magnificent efforts put forth by the agricultural missionaries who teach modern methods of food production and conservation of natural resources. These are indeed men and women from our own homes and families, from our own churches and communities, whose motivations we helped to stimulate and nurture. They still look to us for understanding hearts and material support.

LEARN FROM EACH OTHER

We Methodists learn from our sister and brother denominations, and they learn from us. High quality pertinent content bridges gaps among church organizations and between generations of great leaders in town and country service.

FOR OUR FELLOWSHIP

Out of all this there is still one more development that ought to come. In our own general areas or sections of the Conference, we need to find a few occasions when town and country folk can gather together in their common concern for Christ in the countryside and just be a blessing and source of courage, inspiration and new vision for each other! Let's develop a Methodist Rural Fellowship! Our mutual needs and concerns should unite us in service!

—Rev. Wm. E. Coates

National Convocation Studies the Church In Town and Country

The Regional Convocation on the Church in Town and Country was held at Lakeview Methodist Assembly grounds near Palestine, Texas, October 17, 18, 19.

The Convocation was sponsored by the National Council of Churches of Christ in America in co-operation with major denominational bodies throughout the Southwest. **This is the first time in the seventeen years of the annual convocation that it has been brought to Texas.**

MAJOR ADDRESSES

Dr. Marvin T. Judy, Perkins School of Theology, who is chairman of the program committee for the convocation, announced the major addresses which highlighted the program.

Dr. Robert L. Skrabanek, Texas A. & M. College, spoke on the subject "Social Theory and Population Change." "Church Planning" was the topic of Dr. F. E. Rector, Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dr. Bill Moyers, Washington, D. C., addressed the group on "The Peace Corps", and Dr. Philip Aylesworth, Federal Extension Service, Washington, D. C., spoke on "The Rural Development Program". Dr. Aylesworth was assisted by Mr. John Grigsby, Oklahoma Extension Service.

Other presentations were given on the subject of **Migrant Labor** by Miss Betty Whitaker of the Texas Council of Churches; **Latin American Church Work**, by Mr. Robert Brown, San Antonio; and **Indian Work**, by Dr. Henry Randolph, recently retired director of Town and Country Work of the Presbyterian Church.

INTEREST GROUPS

There were ten interest groups into which the entire conference was divided for small group discussions. The groups centered around various concerns of the persons attending. Worship each day was under the direction of Dr. Harold Hug, recently elected Director of Town and Country Work of the Methodist Church with headquarters in Philadelphia.

The Convocation was under the direction of Dr. Henry McCanna, Executive Director of the Department of Town and Country Church of the National Council of Churches.

"The Twelve" Works In Town and Country

Rev. O. B. Rogers, Executive Secretary of the North Texas Town and Country Commission has adapted the idea of "The Twelve" for use in town and country churches. Dissatisfied with the notion that it was necessary to look elsewhere for the twelve as the basis of a spiritual revival in the local church, the North Texas minister discovered the natural and normal selection of "The Twelve" could be best made from representative groups in the church.

Start with Laymen

"We need to start where we are," the Rev. Mr. Rogers said, pointing out that there can be no continuity of program in the local church unless it comes from a trained, dedicated, and spiritually alive lay leadership. Forty percent of our ministers move every year, and sixty percent move every two years, according to a study made by Rev. Rogers.

Laymen Have "Holy Calling"

The plan of the "Local Church Twelve" is to bring the twelve leaders together around a long table where they can look into the face of each other. The pastor sits at the head of the table at the right hand of Jesus Christ. The lay leader is on the left. At the table with them are persons who have been set aside by the church for their "holy calling" as lay leaders. They include the S.S. Superintendent teachers, adults, youth, children, chairmen of the Official Board, and the chairmen of the commissions on evangelism, education, stewardship, missions, and social concerns.

Gainesville Tries Plan

The first experimentation with the idea of "The Local Church Twelve" was held in the educational building of Gainesville's First Methodist Church where the Rev. Chief Warden is pastor. Following a sandwich supper and fellowship, the twelve retired to a room where they sat in designated positions around the table.

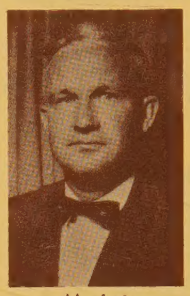
Follow Jesus' Method

In their first meeting, it was made clear to the twelve that they were following the historical method of Jesus who according to Mark 3:3 took the twelve with him into the hills for intensive study and training.

All the great movement in Christianity, according to the Rev. Mr. Rogers, have been based on the intensive training of the few rather than on the general preaching to the multitudes. The implication of this for the church, he says, is overwhelming. "Books will be forgotten and unread, but disciples will live," Rev. Rogers reminded the group as he referred to St. Paul's words in I Cor. 13:8, 'As for tongues they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass.' "Only from the long perspective of the years does this truth gleam brightly," Mr. Rogers added. "Who could ever have guessed that against the momentous magnitude of this act, when Jesus went into the hills and called the "Twelve", the glory of Greece, the grandeur of Rome, and all the marching legions were as dust."

Why I Believe In CROP

By the Rev. William B. Lutz, representative of the Detroit Conference of the Methodist Church on the Michigan CROP Board of Managers.



Mr. Lutz

I believe in CROP because I believe in Russell Hartzler. Every organization reflects the character and personality of its leadership. We in Michigan know CROP chiefly through our Michigan CROP Director. His compassion and concern for hungry people are so contagious that he helps to keep a Christian conscience alive in us. Tempted as we are to lapse into complacency in the face of the most elemental human need, CROP serves as a gadfly to stir us out of our moral lethargy.

CROP provides an ideal means for the people of goodwill of every Michigan community to work together in the cultivation of a Christian conscience and the expression of the best in American idealism.

Every local church, both urban and rural, needs CROP.

(1) CROP, as the food collection agency of Church World Service, supplements the Share Our Surplus program by providing many needed foodstuffs not available from Government surplus stocks.

(2) A dollar given to CROP provides many times as much food as a dollar given to some non-church agencies.

(3) CROP food is distributed under CWS supervision, usually through overseas missionaries, in the name of Christ.

(4) While Community Chest provides essential services for ourselves, mostly local and regional needs, CROP is a distinctive Christian appeal, exclusively for others,

(5) CROP provides a practical, sound ecumenical program for the churches of most communities. Is this not more effective as a witness for Christ than only a union service now and then and patronizing each other's chicken suppers?

CROP, as a tool of the church, is effective only as it is used.

Jerome Davis Joins Speaker's Bureau

Mr. Davis

Mr. C. Jerome Davis is a life-long resident of Harrison County, Indiana, having spent his entire life on the farm that has been in the Davis family since the early 1800's. He has been active in local and state-wide farm organizations and public service. He has been an officer of the Indiana State Grange for sixteen years and is presently serving as Overseer.

Mr. Davis was a member of the Indiana State Soil Conservation Committee for four years as Secretary of the Indiana State Toll Bridge Commission. He was elected Vice-President of the State Association of Soil Conservation Districts Supervisors in 1954 but resigned to accept a position with the National Grange in Washington, D. C. Mr. Davis has been employed for the past seven years as a Field-Assistant to the Master of the National Grange in which capacity he has traveled and worked in every state in the union except Alaska and Hawaii. He is a member of the USDA Soil and Water Conservation Advisory Committee, and, with Mrs. Davis, accepted a special assignment from the Department of Agriculture to represent American Agriculture at the Cairo Trade Fair in Cairo, Egypt during March and April of this year, 1961. Mr. Davis is an active member of the Methodist Church and believes that it is the privilege as well as a duty for each individual to serve his God by serving his fellow man.

Scarritt Develops Ten-Year Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

tal student body numbering about 225.

The five proposed buildings were outlined in the plan in the order of their priority as follows: 50-unit residence for men, 50-unit residence for women, student activity building, 50-unit residence for men, 50-unit residence for women.

Bishop Roy H. Short, Nashville, chairman of the board of trustees, presided at the board meeting October 17.

Scarritt is owned by the General Conference of The Methodist Church. It is primarily a graduate school for persons planning church vocations.

Dr. Holt said the board is looking toward the celebration of the college's 75th anniversary in 1967.

Laymen Desire Work In Church

An increasing number of persons who have achieved success in their respective occupations are wanting at middle age to become full-time employed workers in The Methodist Church.

This appeared to be the consensus of the Methodist Interboard Committee on Christian Vocations in its annual meeting October 16 in Nashville.

As a result of several such reports by committee members, Bishop Edwin E. Voigt, Springfield, Ill., committee chairman, appointed a committee that will work on the matter, which is considered both an opportunity and a problem so far as placement of the persons is concerned.

The Methodist Church must find some way of "harnessing this splendid potential of manpower and womanpower for the service of the church," said Bishop Everett W. Palmer, Seattle, Wash., a committee member.

The number of employment openings for such persons in The Methodist Church is currently limited, in the opinion of the committee. However, the Rev. Paul W. Yount, Jr., New York City, said that the denomination has "almost unlimited' employment opportunities for single women, both in this country and abroad. He is a secretary of missionary personnel for the Methodist Board of Missions.

The Methodist Church has a great need for more ministers, but many of the middle-aged persons who want to do full-time work for the church desire to do so in other capacities. In many cases, these persons would like for the church to utilize the experience they have had in their chosen occupations, for instance, law or business.

Asks Gifts for Poland

Methodist ministers and their families in Poland are in dire need of funds for food, clothing and other means of sustenance, Dr. J. A. Engle of New York reports. Dr. Engle is general secretary of the Joint Section of Education and Cultivation of the Board of Missions.

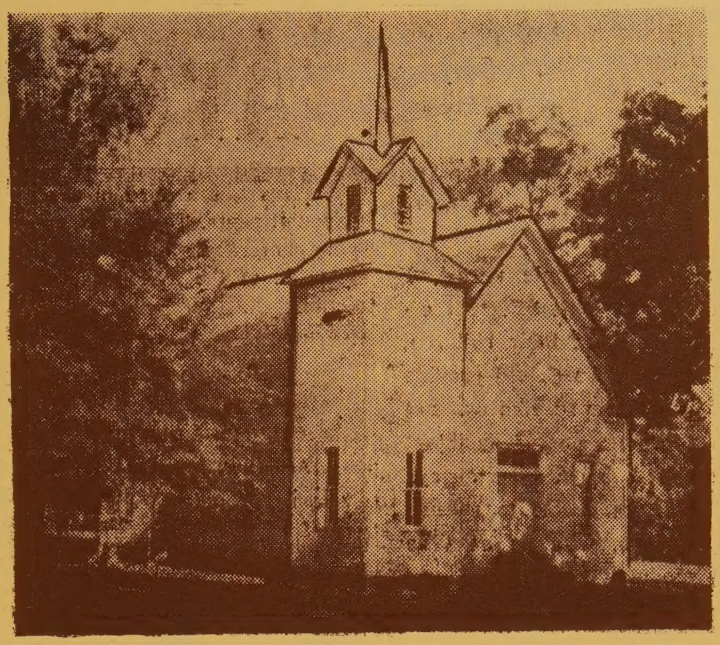
"We need desperately 59 Christmas Advance Specials of $50 each for relief of Polish pastors," said Dr. Engle, who visited Poland in August. "The money will be distributed through the channels of the Methodist Committee for Overseas Relief (MCOR)."

AN EXCUSE IS A STATEMENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH A MAN FAILS TO DO HIS DUTY.
Clipped

Inconsistency is the only thing in which men are consistent.

Horace Smith—Tin Trumpet

DISCONTINUED RURAL CHURCHES CAN BE COMMUNITY CHAPELS



SHILO METHODIST CHURCH
. . . congregation disbanded after 100 years

The Town and Country Commission has been trying for a number of years to help maintain and strengthen the rural church in the Texas Conference. In spite of the help from every source the people are still leaving the rural areas for the urban centers. There are several communities where this exodus has been to such an extent that services must be discontinued.

The suggestion is made that we make chapels of the rural churches that have to be discontinued, and attach them to the town church nearest to it. The building can be maintained by the community and the town church for a Community Center. The facilities can be used for homecomings, funerals, graveyard workings, and various community activities.

Services were discontinued in the Shilo Methodist Church after 100 years of service to this community. It was on the Alto Circuit through these years and the few Methodist people remaining in the community are now members of the A. Frank Smith Methodist Church in Alto.

Time and weather will eventually destroy the building unless it is tied officially to some group that does have an interest in the building and in maintaining it. This is a possible solution for the church remaining as a community center.

Those left in the community, as well as those who have moved away, may wish to preserve and maintain the building as one of the ancient landmarks as well as the heritage and tradition of the rural church.

Maintain the buildings as chapels when the people are no longer able to maintain them as churches.

Editor's Note:
At the last General Conference Holston Conference's Commission Town and Country sent a memorial requesting that chapels be made out of some of our rural churches. Nothing came of it. However, some small churches—too small to be organized churches—are continuing as Sunday schools under the direction of some quarterly conference. This is probably not the case in the above story, but some churches and ministers give up too soon and a sister denomination comes in and makes a real "go" of the situation.

School Going Strong

Saint Paul School of Theology, Methodist, in Kansas City, Mo., reports 142 students from 21 states and three foreign countries at the opening of the 1961-62 academic year. Six denominations other than The Methodist Church are represented in the student body. This is the first year the new seminary, headed by President Don W. Holter, has had all three classes represented in the student body. The school (formerly known as National Methodist Theological Seminary) opened its doors in 1959 with first-year students only.

Wherever I found a living creature, there I found the will to power.

Nietzsche—Thus Spake Zarathustra

Rural Work In Eastern Kentucky

Rev. O. J. Simmerman, Jr., Miss Jennie Flood and Miss Mary Ferguson.

Rural work in Laurel County, Kentucky began about 18 years ago as a volunteer service by Sue Bennett College teachers. Soon after the Woman's Division made an appointment of a combination teacher and rural worker. Since that time rural workers of varying abilities and skills have served the area. Up until this Fall Miss Jennie Flood had been the worker since 1956. She is now in Harlan County, Ky.

Project Evaluated

Three years ago, the Woman's Society Executive Committee, the president of Sue Bennett College and the Executive Secretary of the Town and Country Commission and the Woman's Division evaluated the work and decided it was time for the project to "grow up". A new approach was tried. A large house was secured in the center of the county seat of London. This became Laurel County Methodist Center. It is the residence of the rural worker, a meeting place for the people of the county who come to town to shop, a place to wait for a ride home, a place for workshops and conferences.

Worker Has Other Duties

The work of the Laurel County Methodist Center is but a small part of the service rendered by the church and community worker. She serves as resource person for leadership training in the eight rural Methodist churches; works with children, youth and adults. She often stimulates action on the part of community groups, acts as liaison person between the church and community.

New Project Started

Two years ago a rural project was started in Breathitt County in connection with Methodist Mountain Missions. The Woman's Division appointed Mrs. Judy Hust as rural church and community worker. Her husband, Bill Hust, serves as a member of the Staff of Methodist Mountain Missions.

The Casey County Methodist Rural Fellowship

Sitting on a hillside, surrounded by large trees, stands a picturesque and typical rural church. The uniqueness of this church lies in the living heritage it can claim. Bethelridge Methodist Church, in Casey, County, Kentucky was organized in 1795 and has sent out "into all the world" more than forty ministers and educationalists. In Casey County there are found fourteen other Methodist Churches; the largest one located at Liberty, the county seat, and the other thirteen ranging in size and membership.

Through the concern and interest of the "Methodist Men" of the First Methodist Church in Liberty there sprung up a desire among the pastors, laymen and district superintendent to organize themselves into the Casey County Methodist Rural Fellowship. study and groundwork was done for a period of months, and in October, 1960 the Fellowship came into being.

The following goals were selected:

- Worship services in each church at least once every Sunday.
- Vacation Church School in every church.
- Methodist Youth Fellowship functioning in every church.
- Ask the Woman's Division of Christian Service to send a Rural Church and Community Worker.
- Have an understanding that all Ministers and Lay people will give themselves to this program when called upon.
- Overall goal is to reach and serve all the people.

In April, 1961 the Woman's Division appointed a Rural Church and Community Worker to Casey County, Miss Mary Ferguson. Also Miss Cornelia Russell, Executive Secretary for Town and Country Work for the W. D.C.S. met with the Casey County Rural Fellowship to help clarify its policies, point out specific areas of service which might be met, and to give encouragement and vision to the work.

Worth Remembering—"The indictment against organized religion by the unchurched is that we have spent nearly 2,000 years systematizing irrelevant theological tidbits. It may be that we have spent so much time studying Greek and Hebrew that we have failed to learn the language of the average man and thus failed effectively to communicate the gospel." —Rev. Dr. John B. Oman of Wesley Church, Minneapolis, speaking at the North Central Briefing Conference on Christian Social Concerns.

New Motion Picture On Family Values

In preparation for the 1962 emphasis on "The Christian Family and Rapid Social Change," the emphasis sponsored jointly by the Board of Christian Social Concerns, the Woman's Division of Christian Service (Department of Christian Social Relations), and the Board of Education (Department of the Christian Family), **Buyers' Choice**, a film about modern family life, has been prepared. **Buyers' Choice** is the story of a family moving to a new community, in which the parents have to make a decision regarding the type of home they shall buy. It raises the question, Is it wrong to want a higher standard of living? They recognize that a larger house will mean new sacrifices and the mother will have to work, but by close figuring they could justify the expense. The question is, Is this the best investment for the family to make? It introduces the subject of the mobility of family life today and the changes that people face as they move into new communities.

This film, produced by Family Films for the National Council of Churches, may be ordered from Cokesbury. B. and W., $9.00; color, $13.00. Utilization guide, 10 cents.

The confidence which we have in ourselves gives birth to much of that which we have in others.

La Rochefoucauld

FHA New Housing Program Stimulates Rural Building

(Continued from Page 1)

improvements of dwellings of older people and others without enough income to repay loans, and housing studies are also part of the new FHA program.

Housing Loans

Housing loans are made to construct, repair, and remodel dwellings and essential farm buildings, to modernize homes, add bathrooms, central heating, modern kitchens, and other home improvements; to enlarge and remodel farm service buildings and put in related facilities such as paved feedlots; to provide water for farmstead and household use.

The proposed housing must be adequate to meet the family's needs yet modest in size and design.

Rural housing loans also will put more carpenters, plumbers, and electricians to work, and will increase sales in lumber and building supply firms.